have reduced the bid value. Hence the ultimate disinvestment proceeds to the Government would have been the same irrespective of the transaction structure.

Setting up of major shrines in Tamil Nadu

5089. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently declared that Indian tourism would get a religious boost; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether revamping the set up of Vaishno Devi shrine has increased the pilgrims from 3 lakh to 60 lakh;

(c) whether Government would consider similar revamp in the set up of major shrines in Tamil Nadu and other Southern States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) in what manner this revamp in the setup would help to develop tourism and tourists in these and nearby centers?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The Government is considering various proposal to boost cultural tourism and due importance is given to domestic tourism and development of pilgrim centres in the country.

(b) The number of Pilgrims has increased manifold.

(c) Development of tourism including pilgrim centres is under the purview of the State Government concerned.

(d) The State Government of Tamil Nadu has informed that periods renovation of shrines are undertaken and basic tourist infrastructure facilities are provided in collaboration with local Town Planning Authorities and concerned Departments.

(e) The enhancing of basic tourist facilities and connectivity to the places of pilgrim centres will automatically bring more tourists to these places, thus contributing to development of tourism.

Undertakings and Corporations under the Ministry of Tourism and Culture

5090. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Undertakings and Corporations under the Ministry of Tourism and Culture;

(b) the details of their earnings and losses during the last three years;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to make them profitable;

(d) if so, whether they have borne fruit; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) India Tourism Development Corporation is the only Public Sector Undertaking under the control of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture.

(b) The details are given as under:

Year	Turnover	Profit / loss Before tax (Rs. in lakhs)
1999-2000	288.50	(-)24.03
2000-2001	305.60	(-)33.62
2001-2002	223.26	(-)59.48

(c) to (e) Various steps such as aggressive marketing efforts including promotional schemes, tie- up with Airlines, State Governments, appointment of reservation consolidators, restructuring of corporate and marketing set up, opening up of new Duty Free Shops at Custom Airports and improving the existing shops, etc. have been initiated to improve the profitability of the Corporation. These steps are likely to show positive results during the current financial year.

Suggestions of World Tour and Tourism Council

†5091. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received suggestions from the World Tour and Tourism Council to improve the basic facilities for promoting tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.